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Atty. Dkt. No. 016907-1591

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kazushige MORIHARA et al.

Title:

FIXING APPARATUS AND

IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Appl. No.:

10/743,492

Filing Date:

12/23/2003

Examiner:

Ryan M. Gleitz

Art Unit:

2852

Confirmation No.:

7812

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated April 3, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: